

THE ARTS IN GHANA WITH SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Purpose

In West Africa, approximately 70% of people live in rural areas, stuck in a “poverty trap” with low agricultural productivity. With no collateral and high interest rates, farmers seem doomed to plant in depleted soils without improved inputs like fertilizers and pesticides.

With the educational mandate “to prepare individuals to be technically competent, self-reliant, and productive citizens in a global society” in mind, two Ohio State ATI faculty members have led 10 tours to Ghana, with the most recent in April 2013.

Impact

Traveling to Ho, participants enjoy a high-quality, applied educational experience. Mornings, they engage in community development outreach with veterinarians and educators to give herd treatments, plant fruit groves, teach in schools, and work with hospitalized children. Afternoons, they focus on the arts, drumming, dancing, and Ewe language lessons. Evenings, development experts lead lecture-discussions on social issues, or storytellers or musicians perform. On recent tours, students have implemented research projects on girls’ education, microfinance, herd health, and dance.



OHIO STATE COLLEGES/UNITS INVOLVED

OHIO STATE ATI

STUDENTS FROM ADDITIONAL
DISCIPLINES: AGRICULTURE, DANCE,
BIOLOGY, PUBLIC HEALTH

COMMUNITY PARTNERS INVOLVED

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN RELIEF AND
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, HO, GHANA
NOBLE FOUNDATION, WOOSTER, OH
PARAMOUNT TOGBE OF HO
VILLAGE TOGBES: KPENOE, WEGBE,
AKROFU, AKOEFE, HODZO, TAKLA
CENTRAL AMERICAN MEDICAL
OUTREACH, ORRVILLE, OH
RISING STAR ACADEMY, HO, GHANA
VOICEGHANA, THE VOICE FOR THE
DISABLED, GHANA
EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE, HO, GHANA
VOLTA REGIONAL HOSPITAL, HO, GHANA
MAWUKO GIRLS’ HIGH SCHOOL, HO,
GHANA
ROMICH FOUNDATION, WOOSTER, OHIO
THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST MEN’S
GROUP, WILLARD, OHIO
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
WOOSTER, OHIO
OHIO STATE ATI RCOSA FUND
INDIVIDUAL DONORS

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